

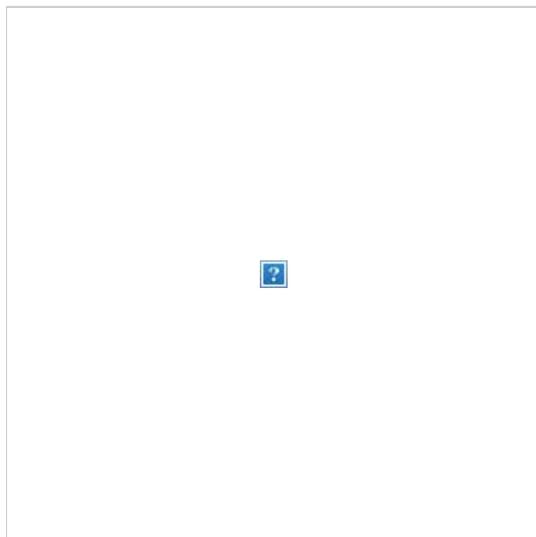
**From:** [Fort River Watershed Association](#)  
**To:** [Sarah Thornbrugh](#)  
**Subject:** Fort River Cleanup - Save the Date!  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 31, 2021 10:19:09 AM



# News and Updates on the Fort River

September 2021

**SAVE THE DATE - Fort River Cleanup happening on September 25, 2021!**



*FoRWA Board Member and Fort River enthusiast Brian Yellen offers a welcome to a mighty group of cleanup volunteers at our 1st Annual Fort River Cleanup in 2019.*

*Photo credit: Christine Hatch*

Mark your calendars for this year's 3rd Annual Fort River Cleanup, part of the Connecticut River Conservancy's 25th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup, happening Saturday, September 25, 2021!

Many details are still be finalized but here's what you can expect at this year's Cleanup:

- All Fort River Cleanup volunteers will be welcome to meet for an in-person roundup on the morning of Saturday 9/25 for supplies, instructions and announcements. *Masks will be required for this gathering regardless of vaccination status.*

From there, we will dispatch our incredible team of cleaner-uppers to their respective cleanup sites throughout the watershed! We have 17 sites on our radar from past cleanups. If you have a site in need of some cleaning, please email us at [fortriverwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:fortriverwatershed@gmail.com)!

- Cleanup supplies, t-shirts and a central location for trash drop-off will be available to all volunteers. Our cleanup crew is also available to help ensure your trash gets tallied and sent in to be counted towards the total impact of the Source to Sea Cleanup. Hey, there might even be coffee, too :D
- All volunteers will be required to register for this year's cleanup and each participant will need to complete a registration form - including kids. This step is particularly important this year, as it offers us the information we need to contact all volunteers in case of a change or emergency before or after the event. *Registration can be completed online by following [this link](#) - please be sure to select 'Fort River Cleanup' from the affiliate group drop down menu!* For volunteers without online access, paper registration forms will be available on site at the cleanup.

Register for the Fort River Cleanup 2021 here!

We will be keeping a close eye on what is happening with COVID and ready to pivot if necessary to keep our community safe. Please know that every effort will be made to make sure you are safe, comfortable, and able to joyfully contribute your time to this meaningful effort in the watershed!

*Still have questions about this year's cleanup?*

*Interested in being part of the planning team for this year's cleanup? We can use help and hands of all kinds, sizes, and abilities and we would love to work with you!*

Email us at [fortriverwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:fortriverwatershed@gmail.com) - we'll get you connected with our cleanup team!

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## Water Quality Update!

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*ARPS rising senior Sylvie Hope started collecting water quality samples at Amethyst Brook and Groff Park to continue building our water quality monitoring.  
Photo credit: Brian Yellen*

The summer of 2021 has been one for the record books - literally. Early July was [one of the wettest on record](#) in Massachusetts. As a result, the rivers have been running high for this time of year. With high water often comes bacteria, our main contaminant of concern with respect to safe recreation. Lots of rain washes fecal matter from dog poop, deer droppings, beavers, whatever is around, into rivers. The Fort River Watershed Association (FoRWA) continues to monitor bacteria this year, and we're learning about where the hot spots are for bacteria. If you want to check out recent data, [Amethyst Brook](#) data is posted here, and [Fort River at Groff Park](#) is posted here. Thanks so much to Sylvie Hope for collecting these water samples for us!

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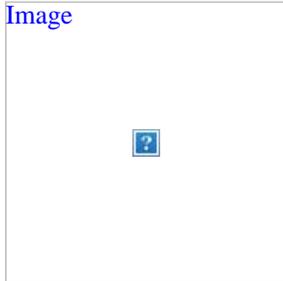


*Fort River confluence with the Connecticut River  
Photo credit: Christine Hatch*

# Thank you for your support of this work!

Thanks to generous supporters like you, FoRWA continues to raise funds to continue this year's work - monitoring the quality of the Fort River waters, taking strategic action to ensure a safe and thriving watershed ecosystem, and continuing to partner with our community to safely and enjoyably connect everyone to this natural treasure. Interested in supporting more of this work in 2021? [You can make a donation here.](#)

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Stay safe,  
your neighbors at the  
Fort River Watershed  
Association

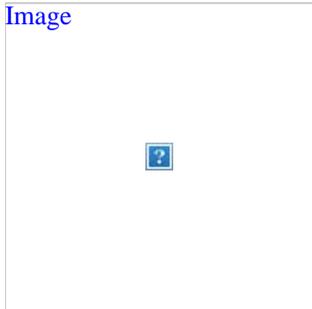
## Have updates on what's happening in the watershed?

Please send us your local Fort River  
news at  
[fortriverwatershed@gmail.com](mailto:fortriverwatershed@gmail.com)



Donate to FoRWA

Image



The Fort River Watershed Association has partnered with the Connecticut River Conservancy, a local non-profit organization advocating for the Connecticut River watershed since 1952. This working partnership makes us both more effective advocates for our rivers.

For more information on the Connecticut River Conservancy, please visit their website:  
[www.ctriver.org](http://www.ctriver.org)

You are receiving this email because of your interest in the Fort River Watershed Association and our work. Please let us know if your interests have changed by updating your [Subscription Preferences](#). Thanks for your support of healthy rivers in our community!